HIBBON, JOHN GRIER [President, Princeton University] November 1918 - May 1919

(008)

December 10th, 1918

President Hibben,

Princeton University,

Princeton, N.J.

Dear President Hibben:

Could it be at all possible for you to come to Toronto some time in February, March, or the beginning of April in order to take one of our Sunday services for us? I know that it is very late to ask you but owing to the coal situation we made no arrangements for services for the second term until now. If you can come I would suggest some time about the end of March or in the first half of April. It would be a great pleasure to have Mrs. Hibben and yourself here for a few days and by that time we may have some decent weather.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

January 15th, 1919

President Hibben,

Princeton University.

My dear President Hibben:

I am sorry that we are not going to have you this spring, but I can quite understand, judging from our own experience, how busy you must be. We shall therefore have to defer that pleasure.

As you say the ending of the war is the lifting of an immense burden from our minds, but other burdens more easily to be borne have taken the place of the acute suffering that was always impending during the period of the war.

We are trying to get our returned soldiers fitted in, and it is no easy task. We have to undertake instruction of a grade that we have never given before simply to save some of our boys for university work.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Hibben and yourself, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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April 19th, 1919

My dear President Hibben:

I am very glad to know that you will come to Toronto and take our degree. Since writing to you we have announced that the honorary degrees shall be conferred on the evening of Thursday, the 5th of June. You could leave New York at eight o'clock the previous evening and be here by midday on Thursday. It would be almost necessary for you to remain until five o'clock the next afternoon as the trains that leave at nine in the morning are pretty slow, though if you find it necessary to do so you could take the nine o'clock train on Friday. However, Friday afternoon we shall have the regular conferring of degrees on undergraduates and a garden party, and if you and Mrs. Hibben will be able to stay over until the afternoon of Friday it would give us great pleasure.

Yours sincerely,

President J. G. Hibben,
Princeton University.

President.

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April 20th, 1919

My dear President Hibben:

I am very glad to know that it will be possible for you to come to Toronto and receive the honorary degree which I may assure you is being offered to you with a great deal of cordiality. We have decided to make a change this year in order to shorten the proceedings of the regular Convocation when the undergraduates degrees are given. We are therefore intending to confer the honorary degrees on Thursday evening, June 5th. This would mean that you would have to leave Princeton on Wednesday evening arriving here on Thursday morning. Of course if you could stay over to the regular undergraduate Commencement on the following afternoon, Friday, June 6th, it would be a great pleasure to us. I have already asked you to remain over if possible until Friday evening, but we must of course leave that to your own judgment. We are hoping also to have an address from you on the Thursday evening. My wife joins with me in extending a hearty invitation to Mrs. Hibben to accompany you. With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

President J. G. Hibben,

Princeton University.

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PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON, N. J.

PRESIDENT'S ROOM

May 1st, 1919.

My dear Sir Robert:

I have received your last letter and shall be very glad to follow your instructions leaving New York on Wednesday, evening, June 4th, reaching Toronto the next morning, and spending that day. I shall probably have to leave early Friday morning owing to the near approach of our own Commencement season. Mrs. Hibben will probably not be able to accompany me because of the hurried journey. I am looking forward with pleasure to meeting you again and particularly upon such an occasion, which is naturally very delightful to me. I shall be very glad to say a few words as you request at the exercises connected with the conferring of the honorary degrees.

With warmest regards,

Faithfully yours,

John Grier Hibben

To-
Sir Robert Falconer,
Toronto, Canada.

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May 28th, 1919

President John Grier Hibben,

Princeton University.

My dear President Hibben:

I am sorry that I overlooked saying to you that we will provide a hood for you at the Commencement, but would like you to bring your own gown.

I have made an announcement also that you are to give an address, and you will be the only one to speak on behalf of those who receive honorary degrees.

My wife wrote to Mrs. Hibben asking her to accompany you and we regret very much that she is not to join you. We shall have to defer this pleasure for some later time.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.